

GARDEN GROVE CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE
RELATING TO REPRESENTATIVES AND OFFICIALS FROM THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC
OF VIETNAM TRAVELING IN OR THROUGH THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE

WHEREAS, the city of Garden Grove is home to the largest number of residents of Vietnamese descent in Orange County;

WHEREAS, the vast majority of American citizens and residents of Vietnamese descent residing in the United States and, specifically in Garden Grove, reject the current dictatorial rule of the Vietnamese Communist Party;

WHEREAS, thousands of citizens and residents of Vietnamese descent residing in Garden Grove, since the Fall of South Vietnam on April 30, 1975, have risked their lives escaping from Vietnam in search of freedom and democracy;

WHEREAS, the known presence of Vietnamese communist officials and representatives in, or close to, large concentrations of Vietnamese-Americans and residents, especially around the "Little Saigon" area, which straddles between Garden Grove and Westminster, has been met with angry protests and demonstrations from the same;

WHEREAS, Garden Grove has expended an inordinate amount of public safety funds in response to a "mutual aid" call from Westminster in January 1999 to help maintain peace and order in Little Saigon whereby thousands of area residents came out to protest, for 53 straight days, against a merchant who displayed a Vietnamese communist flag and photo of communist leader Ho Chi Minh;

WHEREAS, the Little Saigon protests in 1999 and subsequent demonstrations against the Vietnamese communist government required hundreds of officers from multiple jurisdictions to maintain peace at an unbudgeted cost of hundreds of thousands of dollars;

WHEREAS, the anti-communist sentiments among members of the Vietnamese-American community in Orange County and specifically in Garden Grove, are as strong, if not stronger than anywhere else in the world;

WHEREAS, the public safety risks to the community and to Vietnamese communist delegations or commercial and trade groups affiliated with the Hanoi regime making last-minute, high-profile, announced stops, drive-bys, or visits in or near Little Saigon, are enormous;

WHEREAS, Vietnamese communist delegations attempting to conduct last-minute announced visits to or drive-bys of Little Saigon, despite the prior

knowledge of expected protests from the Vietnamese-American community, is intended to provoke, challenge, and probe the community's reaction;

WHEREAS, inadequate notice and last-minute requests for security service from the City to protect Vietnamese communist delegations coming to or through the city creates unanticipated safety risks and a financial burden to the community and to the City;

WHEREAS, the current budget deficit in California has adversely impacted all counties and municipalities in the state, including Garden Grove, which results in hiring freezes and cuts in public safety personnel and programs;

WHEREAS, community delegations and trade groups formally affiliated with the Hanoi regime visiting Little Saigon bring no economic or political benefit to Garden Grove, but only causes turmoil and disruption to the city and its residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City Council of the City of Garden Grove does hereby resolve, determine, and find as follows:

1. The City Council does not welcome or sanction high-profile visits, drive-bys, or stopovers by members and officials of the Vietnamese communist government, or that of any delegations affiliated with or organized by the same, within the physical boundary of the city, which includes parts of Little Saigon.

2. The City Council is opposed to the expenditure of much needed City funds and resources in a manner that promotes visits from Vietnamese communist delegations to Garden Grove. This policy statement does not prevent the Police Chief or other affected security manager of the City from taking appropriate security and public safety measures for the community.

3. The City Council hereby directs the Police Chief to implement a detailed "PRIOR NOTICE" policy of requiring outside agencies and jurisdictions requesting public safety assistance from the Garden Grove Police Department and other public safety personnel in the City to inform on the nature, purpose, and duration of such visits, drive-bys, or stopovers of government delegations and affiliated groups from communist Vietnam, at least fourteen (14) calendar days before such occurrence.

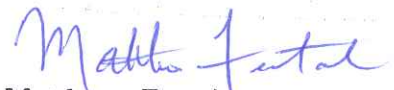
4. The City Council further directs that the Police Chief, at the earliest available opportunity, report to the Mayor and all Council Members of such visits, drive-bys, or stopovers once the request is made from the requesting agency or jurisdiction.

5. The City Council requests that the Police Chief prepare a completed "Cost Bill" for submission to the City Council concerning police services rendered to the requesting agency or jurisdiction in the aftermath of a visit or drive-by by

delegations or groups affiliated with the Vietnamese community government that failed to abide by the City's 14-day "prior notice" policy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this Resolution shall expire at the time when the U.S. State Department officially declares that Vietnam is a free and democratic nation.

Approved for Agenda Listing



**Matthew Fertal
City Manager**